LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Administration of Criminal Justice Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development Transportation, Highways, and Public Works

FRANK A. HOWARD State Representative ~ District 24

September 23, 2013

Ms. Elizabeth Appel
Office of Regulatory Affairs & Collaborative Action - Indian Affairs
1849 C Street, NW
MS 4141-MB
Washington, DC 20240

Re: Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb

(Petitioner #37) Letter of Support for Proposed Changes to the Federal

Acknowledgment Process

Dear Madam,

I am writing on behalf of the Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb in Sabine Parish, Louisiana.

Lam honored to support the Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb, in their efforts to be recognized as a sovereign tribe, by the federal government. They have spent years in researching and documenting the historical existence of their indigenous community group, that have lived in this area for hundreds of years.

This tribal group is an important and integral part of this area and recognized by their surrounding neighbors as being a distinct Community. In addition, they are also recognized by the State of Louisiana as an official tribe

The Choctaw-Apache tribe receives Federal money from the Department of Education and those funds are used to help in the education of all children in Sabine Parish schools and over 900 of these children are family members of the Choctaw-Apache tribe.

For these and numerous additional reasons, I am in full support of the recognition of this unique group of people and including them in the federally recognized register of Indian tribes.

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Thank you for your time and consideration in this important matter.

Sincerely,

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State Representative, District 24